



State of California - The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
**2012 NORTHWESTERN CALIFORNIA  
ROOSEVELT ELK HUNT**



**General Information:** Congratulations on receiving a tag for the Northwestern California Roosevelt Elk Hunt! We hope that your hunt will be a successful one. A very small number of elk occur on rugged public land within the hunt area, but most occur on private property. Hunter success on public land is very low. If you intend to hunt on private property, we encourage you to arrange **written** trespass permission with a landowner well in advance of the hunt. Information regarding the regulations for this hunt may be found at

**<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/hunting/elk/roosevelt/northwestern.html>**

**Remember all hunters MUST report to the Department within one week after the close of elk season, REGARDLESS if an elk was taken, either through mailing in the tag or the new online reporting system outlined below.**

In anticipation of mandatory harvest reporting for all big-game species in 2012 the Department will offer an internet reporting option for hunters to submit big game tag report card information. For the 2012 hunting season, both successful and unsuccessful hunters will be able to report their hunt results online via the Department's online license service at **<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/ols/>**. Hunters submitting reports online will receive a report confirmation number and will not have to mail in the report card. The Department encourages all hunters (including those who were unsuccessful or who had a tag but did not hunt) to use this new service to meet their respective reporting requirements. Accurate harvest information is a crucial element in developing population estimates and the resulting tag quotas as well as in assessing the performance of current hunt programs and in the development of new opportunities. An online reporting option will provide that information in a timelier, more convenient manner. The Department anticipates that internet reporting will be available beginning in July of 2012.

**Care of Meat:** Roosevelt elk are large animals. The weight of adult bulls average over 660 pounds with large bulls exceeding 1,000 pounds. Please consider that field dressing and transporting a harvested elk from the field can be very arduous work. In addition, black bears are common in the hunt area so hunters should be prepared to avoid leaving a harvested carcass in the field overnight in a manner accessible to bears. Please be prepared to transport the carcass out of the field in a timely manner and properly hang those portions that must be left out overnight. We recommend that hunters who are inexperienced with handling game as large as elk acquire the knowledge needed to do so successfully prior to going out into the field. Department staff is available to answer questions that you may have, and information may be obtained from experienced hunters, sporting goods stores, and literature. Cold storage and meat processing facilities may be found in several towns including: Eureka, Arcata, Crescent City, Loleta, and Ferndale.

Conditions during the elk hunting season can be quite warm, even with mild temperatures an improperly handled carcass can lead to **spoilage**. The weather and the steep, rugged terrain within the hunt area make it critical you are prepared to properly care for the meat if you harvest an animal. Elk are large mammals and hold heat, which leads to **spoilage**. Open up the elk as soon as possible including the neck area, hip

joints, and shoulders to promote cooling. You should be physically fit and prepared to skin and quarter or de-bone your elk **immediately** after it is tagged. It is encouraged that you debone the meat as soon as possible to prevent the meat from spoiling (bone sour). The meat should be hung in fly proof breathable sacks in the shade until you pack it out (as soon as possible). If you are hunting by yourself, you will need, at minimum, four game sacks (six is better for loose cuts of meat), plenty of rope, a game hoist, a knife, a knife sharpener, and a pack frame. A meat saw or hatchet and a tarp would also likely be helpful. Failure to properly care for or remove all edible portions of a harvested animal can lead to a violation of the Fish and Game Code. Never lay meat directly on the bed of a truck because the exhaust system heats the bed and can lead to spoilage. It is suggested you place a pad or sleeping bag down to insulate the meat underneath.

**Tooth Collection:** The Department is collecting teeth from animals taken by hunters for age analysis. Successful hunters should follow directions on the tooth envelope (included with this flyer) to remove the two front teeth (and only the two front teeth, please do not send in sections of the jaw) and submit them to the Department. Please do not wrap teeth in plastic or foil. The Department will post the age analysis results at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/hunting/elk> for hunters that submit teeth from their hunt. The age of your animal can be found by using your GO ID number. Please note that these results may not be available until **December** of the **following** year (2013).

#### **Additional Information:**

**Public Landowner Contacts:** Public lands within the zone that allow hunting are administered by the United States Forest Service (USFS), Six Rivers National Forest, 1330 Bayshore Way, Eureka, CA 95501 (707-442-1721), and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Arcata Field Office, 1695 Heindon Road, Arcata, CA 95521 (707-825-2300).

**Maps:** USFS maps are available locally at most USFS offices; by contacting the USFS Pacific Southwest Regional Office at: 1323 Club Drive, Vallejo, CA 94592 (707-562-8737); or ordered by phone (406-329-3024), fax (406-329-3030), mail at USDA Forest Service, National Forest Store, P.O. Box 8268, Missoula, MT 59807, or on-line at <http://www.nationalforeststore.com/>. Maps of the Six Rivers National Forest or BLM lands within the zone may be obtained from the USFS or BLM, or from many local sporting goods retailers in the area. U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps may be helpful for detailing topographic features not displayed on USFS or BLM maps. Detailed USGS quad maps covering any portion of the hunt area, including private property, may be obtained from local sporting goods retailers or from the USGS directly: USGS Information Services, Box 25286, Denver, CO 80225 (888-ASK-USGS) or online (<http://store.usgs.gov/>). Maps may also be obtained from other online or mapping-software publishers.

**Weather:** Weather conditions are variable and may range from heavy rain and fog with cool temperatures through clear skies and warm temperatures.

**Camping:** Contact the USFS or BLM regarding camping on their ownerships. Public campgrounds also exist within local State and National Parks, but they should be consulted regarding restrictions on firearms and the possession of game. Numerous private campgrounds open to hunters also exist within the area.

**Outfitters and Guides:** Outfitters and guides offer a variety of services for elk hunters. Many have limited space so be sure to contact them as soon as possible to reserve their services. It is your responsibility to verify any guides you retain have a **current guide license** issued by the Department of Fish and Game. If you plan to hunt on US Forest Service property your guides will also need to be **permitted** with the US Forest Service. Failure to verify the proper licenses required may result in a citation to both the hunter and guide. A list of licensed guides can be obtained online (<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/hunting/>). Scroll down to the Related Information section and select Big Game Guide List.

**Deer Season Overlap:** Please be aware that the timing of this hunt partially overlaps the B-1 and B-4 deer seasons. Depending where and when you hunt, you may encounter deer hunters in the field.

If you have any questions regarding this hunt, please contact Wildlife Management staff at our Eureka office, 619 Second Street, Eureka, California 95501 or by telephone (707) 445-6493. Again, congratulations and we hope you have an enjoyable hunt. Good Luck!